

Claims

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3 1. A method, including steps of
4 sending a first certificate from a first entity, said first certificate including
5 security information regarding at least a second entity, said first certificate including
6 information authenticating a second certificate from said second entity; and
7 sending said second certificate from said second entity;
8 whereby a recipient of said first certificate and said second certificate can
9 authenticate from information therein a first set of security information to associate with
10 said first entity and a second set of security information to associate with said second
11 entity.

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13 2. A method as in claim 1, wherein at least one of the following
14 includes a root certificate: said first certificate, said second certificate.

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17 3. A method as in claim 1, wherein
18 said first certificate includes both an expiration date and information
19 authenticating a third certificate; and
20 said third certificate includes an expiration date other than said expiration
21 date for said first certificate.

1 4. A method as in claim 1, wherein said first certificate includes
2 information authenticating a certificate from said first entity other than said first
3 certificate.

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5 5. A method as in claim 1, wherein said first certificate includes
6 information authenticating a future intended version of said first certificate.

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8 6. A method as in claim 1, wherein said second certificate includes
9 information authenticating a third certificate.

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11 7. A method as in claim 1, wherein
12 said second certificate including security information regarding at least a
13 third entity, said second certificate including information authenticating a third certificate
14 from said third entity;

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and including steps of sending said third certificate from said third entity

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17 8. A method as in claim 1, wherein said security information includes a
18 set of authorizations for said second entity.

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20 9. An article of manufacture, said article including a computer data
21 signal embodied in readable medium, said readable medium including at least one of the
22 following: a carrier wave, a memory, or a storage device; said data signal including

1 a first certificate indicating a first entity as its source and including (a)
2 security information regarding at least a second entity, and (b) information authenticating
3 a second certificate from said second entity.

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5 10. An article as in claim 9, including a second certificate indicating said
6 second entity as its source; whereby a recipient of said first certificate and said second
7 certificate can authenticate from information therein a first set of security information to
8 associate with said first entity and a second set of security information to associate with
9 said second entity.

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11 11. An article as in claim 9, wherein at least one of the following
12 includes a root certificate: said first certificate, said second certificate.

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14 12. An article as in claim 9, wherein
15 said first certificate includes both an expiration date and information
16 authenticating a third certificate; and

17 18 said third certificate includes an expiration date other than said expiration
18 date for said first certificate.

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20 21 13. An article as in claim 9, wherein said first certificate includes
22 information authenticating a certificate from said first entity other than said first
22 certificate.

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2 14. An article as in claim 9, wherein said first certificate includes
3 information authenticating a future intended version of said first certificate.

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5 15. An article as in claim 9, wherein said second certificate includes
6 information authenticating a third certificate.

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8 16. An article as in claim 9, wherein
9 said second certificate including security information regarding at least a
10 third entity, said second certificate including information authenticating a third certificate
11 from said third entity;

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13 and including steps of sending said third certificate from said third entity

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15 17. An article as in claim 9, wherein said security information includes a
16 set of authorizations for said second entity.

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